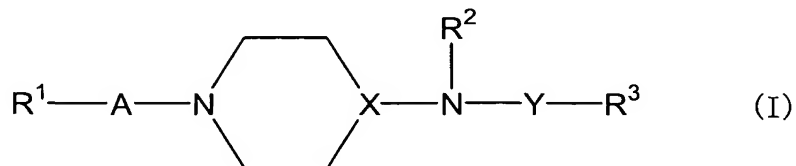


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

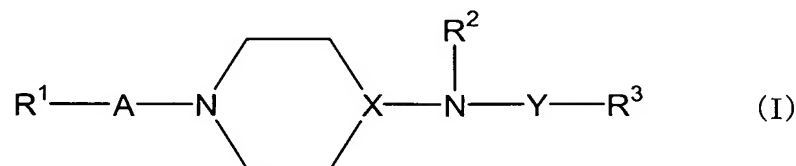
Claim 1 (Original): A neurotrophic factor production accelerator comprising, as an active ingredient, a compound represented by the following formula (I):



wherein R¹ is lower alkyl, aryl, ar(lower)alkoxy or a heterocyclic group, the above groups being optionally substituted by halogen, R² is a hydrogen atom or lower alkyl, R³ is cyclo(lower)alkyl, aryl or ar(lower)alkyl, the above groups being optionally substituted by halogen, A is -CO-, -SO₂- or lower alkylene, X is N or CH, and Y is -CO-, -SO₂- or -CONH-, a salt thereof, a prodrug thereof or a solvate thereof.

Claim 2 (Original): The accelerator of claim 1, wherein the compound represented by the formula (I) is N-(4-acetyl-1-piperazinyl)-p-fluorobenzamide monohydrate.

Claim 3 (Original): A method for accelerating neurotrophic factor production, which comprises administering, to a mammal, a compound represented by the following formula (I):



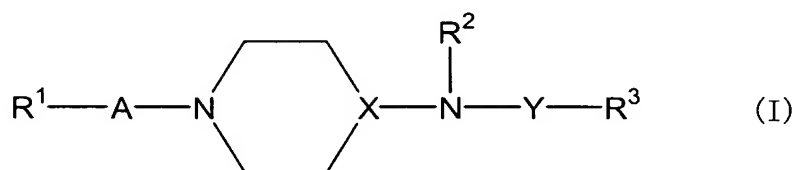
wherein R¹ is lower alkyl, aryl, ar(lower)alkoxy or a heterocyclic group, the above groups being optionally substituted by halogen, R² is a hydrogen atom or lower alkyl, R³ is cyclo(lower)alkyl, aryl or ar(lower)alkyl, the above groups being optionally substituted by

halogen, A is -CO-, -SO₂- or lower alkylene, X is N or CH, and Y is -CO-, -SO₂- or -CONH-, a salt thereof, a prodrug thereof or a solvate thereof.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 3, wherein the compound represented by the formula (I) is N-(4-acetyl-1-piperaziny)-p-fluorobenzamide monohydrate.

Claims 5-6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Original): A pharmaceutical composition for accelerating neurotrophic factor production, which comprises a compound represented by the following formula (I):



wherein R¹ is lower alkyl, aryl, ar(lower)alkoxy, or a heterocyclic group, the above groups being optionally substituted by halogen, R² is a hydrogen atom or lower alkyl, R³ is cyclo(lower)alkyl, aryl or ar(lower)alkyl, the above groups being optionally substituted by halogen, A is -CO-, -SO₂- or lower alkylene, X is N or CH, and Y is -CO-, -SO₂- or -CONH-, a salt thereof, a prodrug thereof or a solvate thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

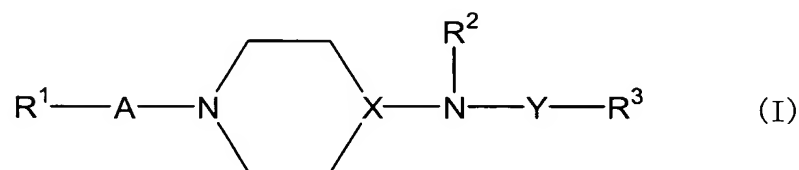
Claim 8 (Original): The pharmaceutical composition of claim 7, wherein the compound represented by the formula (I) is N-(4-acetyl-1-piperaziny)-p-fluorobenzamide monohydrate.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A commercial package comprising the pharmaceutical composition of claim 7 ~~or~~ 8, and a written matter associated therewith, the written matter stating that the pharmaceutical composition can or should be used for accelerating neurotrophic factor production.

Claim 10 (Original): An agent for the prophylaxis or treatment of a motor nervous system or peripheral nervous system disease, which comprises, as an active ingredient, a compound having a neurotrophic factor production accelerating activity.

Claim 11 (Original): The agent of claim 10, wherein the motor nervous system or peripheral nervous system disease is selected from the group consisting of a peripheral nerve disorder (neuropathy, diabetic nervous disease), myelopathy, multiple sclerosis, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), Guillain-Barre' syndrome, Huntington's chorea and neuropathic pain.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The agent of claim 10 ~~or~~ 11, wherein the compound having a neurotrophic factor production accelerating activity is a compound represented by the following formula (I):



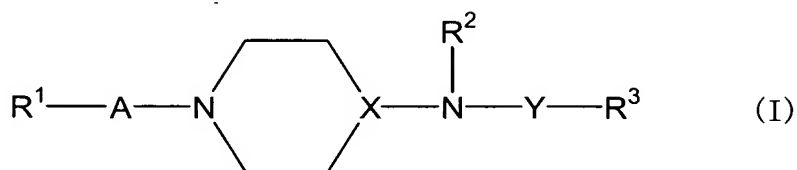
wherein R¹ is lower alkyl, aryl, ar(lower)alkoxy, or a heterocyclic group, the above groups being optionally substituted by halogen, R² is a hydrogen atom or lower alkyl, R³ is cyclo(lower)alkyl, aryl or ar(lower)alkyl, the above groups being optionally substituted by halogen, A is -CO-, -SO₂- or lower alkylene, X is N or CH, and Y is -CO-, -SO₂- or -CONH-, a salt thereof, a prodrug thereof or a solvate thereof.

Claim 13 (Original): The agent of claim 12, wherein the compound represented by the formula (I) is N-(4-acetyl-1-piperaznyl)-p-fluorobenzamide monohydrate.

Claim 14 (Original): A method of preventing or treating a motor nervous system or peripheral nervous system disease, which comprises administering a compound having a neurotrophic factor production accelerating activity to a mammal.

Claim 15 (Original): The method of claim 14, wherein the motor nervous system or peripheral nervous system disease is selected from the group consisting of a peripheral nerve disorder (neuropathy, diabetic nervous disease), myelopathy, multiple sclerosis, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), Guillain-Barre' syndrome, Huntington's chorea and neuropathic pain.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 14 ~~or 15~~, wherein the compound having a neurotrophic factor production accelerating activity is a compound represented by the following formula (I):



wherein R¹ is lower alkyl, aryl, ar(lower)alkoxy, or a heterocyclic group, the above groups being optionally substituted by halogen, R² is a hydrogen atom or lower alkyl, R³ is cyclo(lower)alkyl, aryl or ar(lower)alkyl, the above groups being optionally substituted by halogen, A is -CO-, -SO₂- or lower alkylene, X is N or CH, and Y is -CO-, -SO₂- or -CONH-, a salt thereof, a prodrug thereof or a solvate thereof.

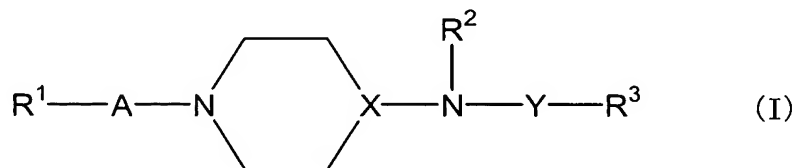
Claim 17 (Original): The method of claim 16, wherein the compound represented by the formula (I) is N-(4-acetyl-1-piperazinyl)-p-fluorobenzamide monohydrate.

Claims 18-21 (Canceled).

Claim 22 (Original): A pharmaceutical composition for the prophylaxis or treatment of a motor nervous system or peripheral nervous system disease, which comprises a compound having a neurotrophic factor production accelerating activity and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 23 (Original): The pharmaceutical composition of claim 22, wherein the motor nervous system or peripheral nervous system disease is selected from the group consisting of a peripheral nerve disorder (neuropathy, diabetic nervous disease), myelopathy, multiple sclerosis, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), Guillain-Barre' syndrome, Huntington's chorea and neuropathic pain.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): The pharmaceutical composition of claim 22 ~~or 23~~, wherein the compound having a neurotrophic factor production accelerating activity is a compound represented by the following formula (I):



wherein R¹ is lower alkyl, aryl, ar(lower)alkoxy, or a heterocyclic group, the above groups being optionally substituted by halogen, R² is a hydrogen atom or lower alkyl, R³ is cyclo(lower)alkyl, aryl or ar(lower)alkyl, the above groups being optionally substituted by

halogen, A is -CO-, -SO₂- or lower alkylene, X is N or CH, and Y is -CO-, -SO₂- or -CONH-, a salt thereof, a prodrug thereof or a solvate thereof.

Claim 25 (Original): The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein the compound represented by the formula (I) is N-(4-acetyl-1-piperazinyl)-p-fluorobenzamide monohydrate.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): A commercial package comprising the pharmaceutical composition of ~~any of claims 22 to 25~~ claim 22, and a written matter associated therewith, the written matter stating that the pharmaceutical composition can or should be used for the prophylaxis or treatment of a motor nervous system or peripheral nervous system disease.